

**DIAGNOSTIC AND SURGICAL
RECOVERY TASK FORCE**

The Diagnostic and Surgical Recovery Task Force will include individuals with expertise related to surgical and diagnostic services, governance, analysis and evaluation, and project management.

The task force is comprised of a steering committee and a project team. The steering committee is comprised of citizens, patients, indigenous representatives, front-line care providers and provincial clinical specialty leaders.

The Task Force Steering Committee Chair is Dr. Peter MacDonald, M.D., dip. sport medicine, FRCS(C). MacDonald is the head, section of orthopedic surgery at the Max Rady College of Medicine, University of Manitoba, and is the chief innovation and research officer at the Pan Am Clinic. MacDonald was selected as chair for his strong expertise in orthopedic surgery and his focus on innovation, which has supported patients in their recovery and return to living active lives. As the past-president of the Canadian Orthopaedic Association, MacDonald's strong experience as a chairperson will ensure the different and important steering committee voices are taken into perspective in shaping the recovery plans.

The steering committee includes:

- Dr. Ed Buchel, provincial specialty lead, surgery;
- Dr. Chris Christodoulou, provincial specialty lead, anesthesia;
- Dr. Marco Essig, provincial specialty lead, diagnostic imaging;
- Dr. Amin Kabani, provincial specialty lead, diagnostic laboratory services;
- Dr. Luis Oppenheimer, patient representative;
- Dr. David Hochman, general surgeon;
- Dr. Pam Hebbard, oncologic surgeon;
- Stephanie Betker, registered nurse;
- Monica Maliszewski-Leahul, registered nurse;
- Matthew Lister, director, Diagnostic and Surgical Task Force (ex-officio member); Ardell Cochrane, First Nations representative;
- Julianne Sanguins, Métis representative;
- Sandra Sukhan, citizen representative; and
- Birgit Hartel, citizen representative.

The steering committee oversees the work of a task force project team. The task force project team director is Matthew Lister. While the task force steering committee is being announced today, the task force project team director and a small team have been working to understand issues and opportunities since October.

Their work includes over 70 consultations with local health system providers and groups as well as assessing existing approaches to managing access to care across the system. This is important work to understand opportunities that our own system encounters to improve access to surgical and diagnostic services as well as innovative approaches to provide care for Manitobans.

Lister was selected for his strong project management capability and his breadth of experience with major health-care organizations in Canada. He has extensive Canadian and international experience in the public and private health-care sectors, focused on operations restructuring, strategy and governance. His work centres on building and sustaining high-reliability and high-performance systems. Lister holds a masters of business administration from the Ivey Business School at Western University and a masters of health administration from Dalhousie University.

Manitoba's Request for Supply Arrangement (RFSA) for Surgery and Diagnostics Overview

- In summer 2020, work was undertaken to address the backlog of surgical and echocardiography services due to COVID-19.
- The request for supply arrangement (RFSA) process was for, but not limited to the following services:
 - echocardiography;
 - pediatric dental;
 - pediatric ear, nose and throat;
 - pediatric general surgery;
 - cataracts;
 - out-patient spine procedures;
 - adult ear, nose and throat;
 - adult general surgery; and
 - endoscopy.
- The scope of services under the current RFSA is limited to day surgeries (e.g. no overnight admissions).
- Both public (regional health authorities, CancerCare Manitoba, Shared Health) and private vendors were eligible to submit proposals for consideration.

- July, September and October 2020 intakes pre-qualified vendors to be called up for service agreements for specific services and volumes. The 2020-21 RFSA allowed for an extension to 2021-22 and that provision was exercised by government.
- A further intake was completed in October 2021.

Services and Volumes Contracted

- Current value (includes October 2021 intake) of service agreements for 2021-22 exceeds \$8.8 million for more than 9,000 procedures including:
 - 4,850 cataracts (Western Surgery Centre and Vision Group);
 - over 600 foot and hand procedures (Pan Am Clinic);
 - 600 pediatric dental surgeries (Western Surgery Centre);
 - 500 endoscopy procedures (Health Sciences Centre and Winnipeg Clinic);
 - 385 ear, nose and throat procedures (Maples Surgical Centre);
 - 225 urology procedures (CancerCare Manitoba); and
 - as well as echocardiograms (Cardio 1 and Maples Surgical Centre), plastic surgery (Western Surgery Centre), and spine procedures/other general surgery (Maples Surgical Centre).
- In 2020-21, more than 5,500 procedures were completed under the RFSA for approximately \$4.2 million including:
 - over 3,000 cataracts (Western Surgery Centre and Vision Group);
 - over 1,800 echocardiograms (Cardio 1 and Maples Surgical Centre);
 - over 250 foot and hand procedures (Pan Am Clinic); and
 - as well as ear, nose and throat (Maples Surgical Centre), urology (CancerCare Manitoba), and spine procedures/other general surgery (Maples Surgical Centre).
- Scope of insured services in current 2021-22 service agreements include:
 - cataracts (accounts for more than 55 per cent of the total procedures in 2020-21);
 - echocardiography (these services were implemented in the health system increasing capacity to meet 50 per cent more total procedures than 2019-20);
 - ear, nose and throat procedures;
 - feet and hand surgery;
 - hernias;
 - laparoscopic cholecystectomy;
 - pediatric dental surgery (contracted in August 2021);

- plastic surgery (breast, trunk and extremities –contracted in August 2021);
- prostate cystoscopy;
- spine surgery; and
- endoscopy (contracted in November 2021).

The Manitoba government has also had historical agreements with both Maples Surgical Centre and Western Surgery Centre prior to the RFSA. These agreements are in addition to the RFSA volumes above:

- Western Surgery Centre has an agreement with WRHA and Manitoba Health and Seniors Care to provide more than 3,000 surgical procedures annually including up to 1,500 cataracts.
- Maples Surgical Centre has an agreement with WRHA and Manitoba Health and Seniors Care to provide 1,824 hours of facility time for surgical procedures identified by the WRHA.